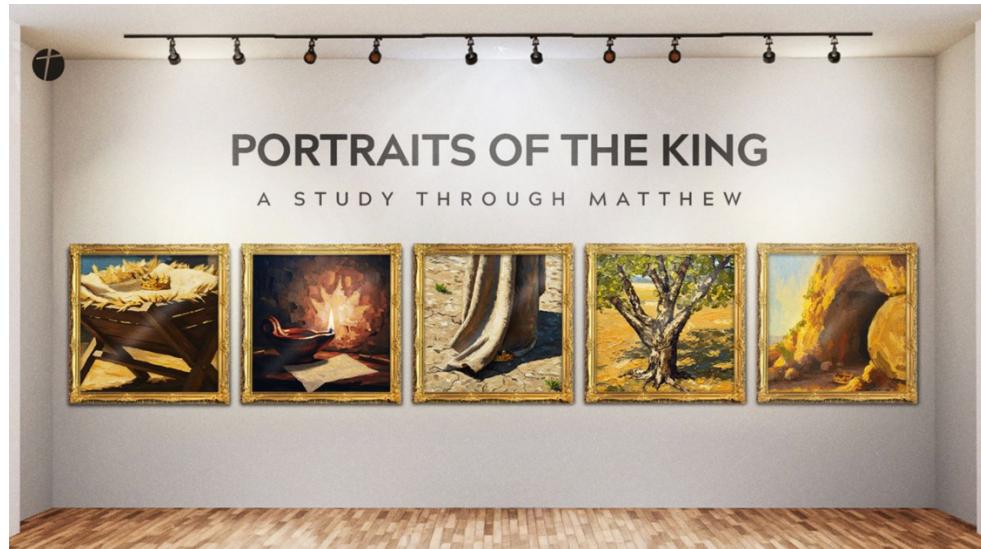


January 29 & February 1, 2026



Matthew: Portraits of the King - Week 8
Teachings of the King
“Portrait of Kingdom Relationships”

Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV)

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

1. Kingdom relationships are shaped by mercy and grace.

- Kingdom relationships look up, not down.
- Kingdom relationships never replace compassion with condemnation.

Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

2. Kingdom relationships begin with self examination.

- Kingdom relationships look in before they look out.
- When grace is missing, your gospel witness will be silenced.

Romans 2:1 (NIV)

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

Matthew 7:5 (NIV)

You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

3. Kingdom relationships remember correcting others is always delicate work.

- If you don't have love for a person, you don't need to bring correction to that person.

Questions before correction:

- Is this correction motivated by love or control?
- Does this correction seek restoration or humiliation?
- Am I offering this correction gently or aggressively?

- Kingdom relationships don't avoid correction.

Matthew 7:5 (NIV)

You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Galatians 6:1 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.

- You judge someone not when you assess their position, but when you dismiss them as a person.

Matthew 7:6 (NIV)

"Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

4. Kingdom relationships make sure the family rules apply.**1 Corinthians 5:12 (NIV)**

What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?

- For unbelievers the problem is not the speck but the need for a Savior.
- The goal is conversion to Christ before persuasion to your point of view.

Matthew 7:7-11 (NIV)

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

⁹ “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

5. Kingdom relationships are fueled by prayer.

- Healing broken relationships is a prayer God is longing to answer.
- Kingdom relationships make prayer their first defense instead of last resort.

Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

6. Kingdom relationships go for the gold, not the silver.

- Kingdom relationships offer others what they have received from God.
 - Compassion vs Condemnation
 - Forgiveness when guilty
 - Mercy instead of judgment